Page 59 has been deleted from the present Application.

On Page 60, please delete the first 5 paragraphs as follows:

~~There are many devices that could be used to achieve the desired phase shifting operations required by the technique of the present invention. Such devices include, but are not limited to, moving phase screens, tilting or micro-oscillating mirrors, defocusing elements, deformable mirrors, acousto-optical and electro-optical phase modulators. In general, the response time characteristics of such devices will be set based on several factors including: (1) the degree of speckle amplitude reduction required by the application at hand; and (2) the photo-integration time period ($\Delta T_{photo\text{-}integration}$) the image detection elements in the IFD module, which will be typically set by other considerations (e.g. ensuring that detected pixels are square to satisfy requirements of image-based bar code symbol decoders and/or OCR processors employed in the PLIIM based system).~~

~~Fig. 1G13 shows an optical assembly comprising the PLIA of Fig. 1G8 and a PLIB micro-oscillation mechanism realized by a refractive-type cylindrical lens array that is micro-oscillated by a pair of ultrasonic transducers arranged in a push-pull configuration. This mechanism is operated so as to micro-oscillate (i.e. move) each individual beam component within the composite planar laser illumination beam along the planar extent thereof (i) by an amount of distance Δx which is sufficient to cause a difference in phase among the wavefronts of the individual beam component by an amount on the order of 1/2 of the laser illumination wavelength, and (ii) wherein the rate of change of such beam component movement is greater than or equal to the inverse of the photo-integration time period of the detector elements. By performing such operation, the target object is repeatedly illuminated with laser light apparently originating from different points in space over the photo-integration period of each detector element in the linear image detection array of the PLIIM system, during which reflected laser illumination is received at the detector element, thereby destroying the spatial coherence of the laser illumination beam received at the detector element and reducing the speckle-noise pattern (i.e. level) produced thereat.~~

~~Fig. 1G14 shows the refractive-type cylindrical lens array employed in the optical assembly shown in Fig. 1G13.~~

~~Fig. 1G15 shows the array support frame employed in the optical assembly shown in Fig. 1G13.~~

~~Fig. 1G16 shows the refractive-type cylindrical lens array employed in Fig. 1G13, illustrated as configured between a pair of ultrasonic transducers operated in a push-pull mode of operation.~~